Taraji P. Henson To Star In Musical Film Adaptation Of ‘The Color Purple’

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Tue, February 1, 2022, 4:30 PM · 2 min read

Source: Rich Fury / Getty

_The Color Purple_ is being brought to a movie theater near you in musical form and Taraji P. Henson has joined the cast. According to _The Wrap_, Henson will play Shug Avery, the sexy and fiery singer who was admired by Celie. The film adaptation will be directed by Blitz Bazawule, best known for directing Beyoncé’s _Black Is King._

Corey Hawkins, known for his role as Dr. Dre in _Straight Outta Compton, In the Heights_ and _The Walking Dead_, and H.E.R will be starring in the film as well. Hawkins will play Harpo and H.E.R will portray Squeak for her film debut.

_The Color Purple_ was first brought to the big screen by Steven Spielberg in 1985, who adapted it from Alice Walker’s novel of the same name. The film saw incredible success, grossing $142 million at box offices worldwide. Since then, it has been a mainstay on Broadway.
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Her a NAACP Image Award nomination for outstanding actress in a television movie, limited series or dramatic special.

The Oscar-nominated actress also signed to direct an anthology project called Tell It Like A Woman. The seven-part anthology will include a segment titled “Pepcy & Kim,” which Henson will direct. Pauletta Washington and Jennifer Hudson will star in the segment, which is inspired by Kim Carter, a former addict who founded a non-profit called the Time for Change Foundation that helps homeless women and children.

“Tell It Like A Woman has been a very long journey, almost six years producing this film, and we couldn’t have asked for a better ending segment in ‘Pepcy & Kim,’” producer Chiara Tilia said according to Variety. “This segment reminds us that in life no matter how difficult the circumstance, there is a way to overcome any obstacle. It is so inspiring to see Kim Carter helping women across the United States with her non-profit, The Time for Change Foundation.”
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